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PRESS RELEASES

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Ottawa, September 20, 1947.

The Department of External Affairs announced today that the Canadian Instruments of Ratification of the Peace Treaties with Italy, Roumania, Hungary and Finland had been deposited, thus terminating the state of war existing between Canada and these countries. The Instruments of Ratification were signed by His Majesty the King on the recommendation of the Canadian Government, after approval had been given by the Parliament of Canada.

2. The Instruments of Ratification of the Peace Treaties with Roumania, Hungary and Finland were deposited by the Canadian Embassy in Moscow with the Soviet Foreign Ministry at 6 p.m., Moscow time, September 19th. The Instrument of Ratification of the Peace Treaty with Italy was deposited by the Canadian Embassy in Paris with the French Foreign Office at 6 p.m., Paris time, on September 15th. The Peace Treaties came into force, as between Canada and each enemy state, on the date of the deposit of the Canadian Instrument of Ratification.

3. The Instruments of Ratification executed by the enemy states and by the United Kingdom, the United States of America, the Soviet Union and France, were deposited on September 15th.

4. The deposit of the Canadian Instruments of Ratification brings to a close the process of peace making with the ex-Axis satellite states of Europe and is the final step in the procedure which, as far as Canada is concerned, commenced with its participation in the Paris Conference, July 29th to October 15th, 1946. The Treaties were signed by Major General G. P. Vanier, Canadian Ambassador to France, on February 10th, 1947.

5. Canada is still legally in a state of war with Germany and Japan, with whom peace treaties have not yet been completed.